# REPORT

DATE:

November 6, 2003

TO:

The Administration Committee

The Regional Council

FROM:

Tonya Gorham, Government Affairs Analyst

Phone (213) 236-1988 - e-mail: gorham@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT:

**NARC Membership Dues** 

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL** 

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Authorize fiscal year 2003/04 expenditure of \$12,500 for annual membership dues to the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC).

### **SUMMARY:**

The NARC represents regional councils and Metropolitan Planning Organizations in issues of transportation, community and economic development, homeland security and the environment. NARC advocates on behalf of regional councils for the coordination, planning and delivery of new and existing federal programs and promotes the use of regional councils as the forums for inter-jurisdictional decision making.

Through their advocacy efforts, NARC effectively represents the legislative and regulatory interests of regional councils. NARC was a major contributor to the development of ISTEA and TEA-21 and is again positioned to be a major player in the reauthorization of TEA 21. They also provide member education and services, helping members address regional challenges through conferences, publications, technical assistance and training.

SCAG has been a member of NARC for many years, with extensive participation. Supervisor Judy Mikels currently sits on the NARC Board of Directors. NARC membership dues for fiscal year 2003-04 are \$12,500. In addition NARC is requesting additional support for their transportation advocacy program in the amount of \$12,500. Due to SCAG's membership in AMPO for transportation issues, staff recommends paying \$12,500 for the membership dues portion only.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Approving this request will result in an expenditure of \$12,500 for the membership dues. Funding to pay for NARC membership dues is located within the General Fund as outlined in the SCAG 2003-04 adopted budget.

# ATTACHMENT:

NARC Invoice Letter

T. Gorham NARC 2003-04 Dues docs#91509



# MAIL RECEIVED

APR 15 2003

April 4, 2003

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASS'N.
OF GOVERNMENTS

Mark Pisano
Executive Director
SCAG
818 W 7th St, 12th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90017

#### Dear Mark:

First let me begin by saying how much NARC appreciates your support and participation over the past year. Thanks to you, membership has nearly doubled. With the support of member voices such as yours, regions have emerged stronger — increasingly becoming the dominant and preferred socio-economic engines of our country.

I know that you are in the process of preparing your budget for the next fiscal year. The purpose of this letter is to transmit an invoice for your NARC dues for the period of July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004 so that you can include NARC membership in your budget.

Advocating on your behalf is NARC's priority and, over the years, we see many opportunities for regions and regional leadership. Through the success of NARC's Policy Groups, its conferences and meetings, NARC has effectively established a solid partnership with the Administration and Congress while advocating strongly including regional councils and MPOs in all emerging initiatives; specifically, homeland security, transportation, economic and community development, and the environment. NARC is committed to a policy of advocacy for all regional councils and MPOs, regardless of population or budget.

A copy of NARC's Legislative Priorities for 2003 is attached. As you can appreciate, it is now more important than ever for regional councils and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to make themselves heard in Washington! NARC is committed to representing, promoting and responding to YOUR needs and interests and we are making great strides to better communicate and more actively involve executive directors and local elected officials in providing input on how NARC can improve services to its members.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 202-986-1032 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:rsoko@narc.org">rsoko@narc.org</a>. NARC staff is ready to assist and advocate for you. Membership in NARC is an investment in the future — not an expense.

Best regards,

Robert Sokolowski
Executive Director



# National Association of Regional Councils Legislative Priorities for 2003

<u>Transportation</u>	Community & Economic  Development	<u>Environment</u>
Reauthorization of TEA 21	Passage of the Regional Comprehensive Emergency Preparedness, Coordination and Recovery Act of 2002	Passage of S.170 and H.R.20 Water Investment Acts. Senate bill includes NARC amendment to increase planning pass-through from 1 percent to 2 percent
Reauthorization of AIR 21	Reauthorization of Workforce Investment Act	Authorization of H. R. 5455, Expediting Project Delivery to Improve Transportation and the Environment Act
Reauthorization of Amtrak	Reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration  Continue support, advice on the Southeast Crescent Authority, Northern Great Plains Authority; and the Southwest Border Authority  Monitoring of all appropriate appropriations bills especially funding levels for the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Delta Regional Authority.	Possibly Clean Air issues that might arise during reauthorization of TEA-21

# General:

- Respond to any recommendations of the Congressional Research Service regarding the role of the federal government in support of regional councils
- > Promote regional councils as the established mechanism for service delivery of existing and new programs.
- > Serve as chair of the Economic Development Coalition.
- > Work with appropriate federal agencies in all areas identified above to promote utilization of regional councils.

For additional information, contact Beverly Nykwest, Director of Policy, at (202) 986-1032 or at nykwest@narc.org.

# MAIL RECEIVED APR 15 2003



National Assoc. of Reg. Councils 1666 Connecticut Ave, NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20009-1039 202.986.1032 fax 202.986.1038 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASS'N. Invoice N.E.GOVERNIA ASS'N.

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Name Attn: Address	SCAG Mark Pisano, Executive Director 818 W. 7th Street		Date	4/11/03
City Phone	Los Angeles State CA ZIP 900	017	Order No. Rep FOB	
Qty	Description			
			Unit Price	TOTAL
1	NARC dues - July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004 Transportation Supplement		\$12,500.00 \$12,500.00	\$12,500.00 \$12,500.00
	Central Files Date: 4/12/03  Vendor #: 5-651  GL#:  WBS#:  FB60#: Date: Approver: Fisher Date:			
— Pav	yment Details		SubTotal	COF
0	Cash	Shippin	g & Handling	\$25,000.00
Ŏ	Check	Taxes State		
0	Credit Card	_		
Name_			TOTAL	\$25,000.00
CC # _	Expires	Office	Use Only	

Payment due upon receipt.